

SECRETEP-8-6396
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12 September 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Mr. Stevenson, September 10, 1956

1. The first intelligence briefing of Mr. Stevenson took place according to schedule at 8:45 a.m., 10 September in the Biltmore Hotel, New York. The briefing lasted approximately one hour, interrupted only once by an outside telephone call to Mr. Stevenson.

2. Mr. Stevenson read the prepared briefing carefully, stopping to ask one question about the Sino-Burmese border dispute. Thereafter a conversation developed quite naturally as Mr. Stevenson raised a few general questions about problems and areas which had not been mentioned in the prepared briefing, viz., the current situation in Malaya and Singapore, the Offshore Islands, Indian reception of the recent economic agreement with the US. He showed particular interest in India and in my reference to Chou En-Lai's prospective visit to India in December. When I suggested a piece on India in the next briefing he said he would like one very much.

3. The conversation then turned to the Suez crisis. Specific questions touched on the nature of Nasr's violation of agreements, the Convention of 1888, Israeli shipping, possible moves in the UN, the non-permanent members of the Security Council, possible solutions of the Suez controversy, Aswan Dam, and failure of the Menzies mission.

4. Mr. Stevenson expressed satisfaction with the briefing and indicated the length of the prepared piece was about right.

5. Arrangements for the next briefing in Washington will be made by Mr. Blair on Monday, 17 September.



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